

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



Re Application of:

Takao OGAWA et al.

Serial No. 09/394,514

Filed: September 13, 1999

For: ELECTRONIC TOLL
COLLECTION SYSTEM FOR
TOLL ROAD

Art Unit: ~~2751~~

Examiner: C.M. Colon

Atty Docket: 0102/0074

#8/IDS

~~2185~~ 2163

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Statement concerning prior-art references 1) and 2) cited in the corresponding Japanese application are as follows.

Enclosed please find a copy of the references 1) and 2), and also a copy of documents 3) and 4).

- 1) Japanese patent application publication number 5-274506, published on October 22, 1993;
- 2) Japanese patent application publication number 8-202907, published on August 9, 1996;
- 3) Machine English translation of Japanese application 5-274506;
- 4) Machine English translation of Japanese application 8-202907.

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A concise explanation of Japanese application 5-274506 is as follows. Data read out from a radio card (2) mounted on a vehicle (1) are received by a radio control device (Sc), and are sent to a vehicle detection device (3). The vehicle detection device (3) combines vehicle detection data and the data read out from the radio card (2) into vehicle data. The vehicle detection device (3) sends the vehicle data to a toll processor (4). The toll processor (4) recognizes whether or not the vehicle (1) is equipped with a radio card in response to the vehicle data.

A concise explanation of Japanese application 8-202907 is as follows. As a vehicle (1) having an on-vehicle device (2) for a toll collection system travels along a lane (7), a vehicle detector (4) detects that the vehicle (1) is incoming. The vehicle detector (4) outputs a vehicle detection signal (10) to a lane control device (5). The lane control device (5) decides whether or not radio communications with the on-vehicle device (2) via a stationary antenna (3) are started in a prescribed time interval since the moment of the reception of the vehicle detection signal (10). When it is decided that radio communications are not started, the on-vehicle device (2) is judged to be absent from the vehicle (1) or to be wrong.

The prior art references attached herewith are being submitted following receipt of a first Office Action, but before issuance of a Final Office Action or a Notice of Allowance

Respectfully submitted,



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